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Notice of Allowability	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/657,659	ANDREW LAVAGE, EDWARD F.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Phong H. Nguyen	3724	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 01/03/2007.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-16.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ | 7. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ |

Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance

1. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Claim 1 is allowable for setting forth a method for separating a pane of a brittle material from a moving sheet of material comprising the step of moving the separated pane relative to the moving sheet using gravity as a sole motive force so that the pane and the sheet do not contact each other once separation occurs.

For example, Dryon teaches a method for separating a pane of a brittle material from a moving sheet of material substantially as claimed except for the steps of using gravity to move the pane relatively to the moving sheet.

Claim 5 is allowable for setting forth a method for separating a pane of a brittle material from a moving ribbon of material comprising the step of releasably engaging the moving ribbon within an area defined by the length and the width of the to-be-separated pane, wherein the ribbon is continuously produced and connected at a manufacturing line.

For example, Dryon teaches a method for separating a pane of a brittle material from a moving ribbon of material substantially as claimed except for the ribbon being continuously produced and connected at a manufacturing line. A single panel is fed into an upper conveyor belt and a lower conveyor belt. That panel is not continuously produced and connected at a manufacturing line

Claim 7 is allowable for setting forth a method for separating a pane of a brittle material from a moving ribbon of material comprising the step of moving the ribbon in a vertical direction.

Dryon teaches a method for separating a pane of a brittle material from a moving ribbon of material comprising the step of moving the ribbon in a horizontal direction but not in a vertical direction.

Claims 8, 13 and 16 are allowable for setting forth a method for separating a pane of a brittle material from a moving ribbon of material comprising the step of releasably engagement the moving ribbon within an area defined by the length and width of to-be-separated pane wherein the releasable engagement is a vacuum engagement.

For example, Dryon teaches a method for separating a pane of a brittle material from a moving ribbon of material comprising the step of using an upper conveyor belt and a lower conveyor belt to releasably engage the moving ribbon but not a vacuum engagement.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

2. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Phong H. Nguyen whose telephone number is 571-272-4510. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Boyer Ashley can be reached on 571-272-4502. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

PN:

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B. M.

BOYER D. ASHLEY
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER

January 25, 2007